

(b) *Informal discovery.* (1) Prior to filing a petition for formal discovery under paragraph (a) of this section, a petitioner may request discovery from the carrier.

(2) The carrier must promptly grant or deny the request.

(3) Agreements between carriers and shippers for informal discovery are permitted under these rules.

(c) *Confidentiality.* If confidential contract data are filed with the Board in a pleading, the party filing these data should submit them as a separate package, clearly marked on the outside "Confidential Material Subject to Protective Order." The order in paragraph (d) of this section applies to the parties specified in the order who receive confidential information through proceedings before the Board or through informal discovery.

(d) *Protective order.* Petitioner and carriers, and their duly authorized agents, shall limit to the contract complaint proceeding the use of contract information or other confidential commercial information which may be revealed in the contract, the complaint, reply, or in any other pleading relating to the contract. This restriction shall be a condition to release of any contract term to a petitioner/complainant and shall operate similarly on a carrier in possession of confidential information which may be contained in a complaint, petition for discovery, or request for informal disclosure. Any information pertaining to parties to the contract or subject to the contract (including consignors, consignees and carriers), or pertaining to the terms of the contract, or relating to the petitioner's/complainant's confidential commercial information, must be kept confidential. Neither the information nor the existence of the information shall be disclosed to third parties, except for: consultants or agents who agree, in writing, to be bound by this regulation; information which is publicly available; information which, after receipt, becomes publicly available through no fault of the party seeking to disclose the information after it has become publicly available, or is acquired from a third party free of any restriction as to its disclosure. The petitioner/complainant or carrier must take all nec-

essary steps to assure that the information will be kept confidential by its employees and agents. No copies of the contract terms or other confidential information are to be retained by the parties not originally privy to the data subsequent to the termination of the proceeding.

(e) *Contract review proceeding.* If the Board institutes a proceeding to review the contract, the complainant's case-in-chief is due 9 days after the institution of the proceeding, but no later than 39 days after the filing of the contract summary. Replies are due 16 days after the institution of the proceeding, but no later than 46 days after the filing of the contract summary.

## PART 1319—EXEMPTIONS

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 721(a) and 13541.

SOURCE: 62 FR 9110, Feb. 28, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

### §1319.1 Exemption of freight forwarders in the noncontiguous domestic trade from tariff filing requirements.

Freight forwarders subject to the Board's jurisdiction under 49 U.S.C. 13531 are exempted from the tariff filing requirements of 49 U.S.C. 13702.

## PARTS 1320—1324 [RESERVED]

## PART 1325—EXTENSION OF CREDIT TO CANDIDATES FOR FEDERAL OFFICE OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

Sec.

1325.1 Extension of unsecured credit prohibited.

1325.2 Credit agreements.

1325.3 Federal office.

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 92-225, the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, enacted Feb. 7, 1972.

SOURCE: 37 FR 10446, May 23, 1972, unless otherwise noted.

### §1325.1 Extension of unsecured credit prohibited.

Persons subject to regulation by the Surface Transportation Board shall not knowingly and willfully provide, for candidates for Federal office or their